Attorney Docket No.: C6656(C) Serial No.: 10/748,038

Filed: December 30, 2003

Confirmation No.: 6775

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A venting closure comprising:

- (a) a cylindrical neck which extends from a container wall, wherein the cylindrical neck has an upper edge and has a given internal diameter that defines a venting opening having a given cross sectional area; and
- (b) a liquid impermeable patch adhered to at least a portion of the upper edge of the cylindrical neck, wherein the patch covers the venting opening and has an aperture therein positioned off-center from a central point of the patch and wherein the aperture has a cross sectional area that is smaller than the cross sectional area of the cylindrical neck;
- (c) a vent cap fastened to the cylindrical neck; and
- (d) a backing layer releasably adhered to an outer surface of the patch such that the backing layer separates from the patch when the vent cap is loosened.

Claim 2 (original): A venting closure according to claim 1, wherein the aperture is positioned in a predetermined area of the venting opening.

Claims 3 and 4 (cancelled)

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Claim 5 (original): A venting closure according to claim 1, wherein the patch is comprised of multiple layers including a foil layer and a heat seal layer.

Claim 6 (cancelled)

Claim 7 (currently amended): A venting closure according to claim 3_1, wherein the vent cap has an outer surface that has a raised portion which is used to align the cap in position during assembly.

Claim 8 (original): A venting closure according to claim 1, wherein the aperture is circular.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A container comprising a dispensing opening, a top wall, a side wall, a bottom wall, a front wall, a back wall, a venting opening in at least one of the top, back and side walls, and a venting closure, the venting closure comprising a cylindrical neck which extends from a container wall, wherein the cylindrical neck has an upper edge and has a given internal diameter that defines a venting opening having a given cross sectional area, and a liquid impermeable patch adhered to at least a portion of the upper edge of the cylindrical neck, wherein the patch covers the venting opening and has an aperture therein positioned off-center from a central point of the patch and wherein the aperture has a cross sectional area that is smaller than the cross sectional area of the cylindrical neck, a vent cap fastened to the cylindrical neck, and a backing layer releasably adhered to an outer surface of the patch such that the backing layer separates from the patch when the vent cap is loosened.

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Claim 10 (original): A container according to claim 9, wherein the aperture is positioned in a predetermined area of the venting opening.

Claim 11 (original): A container according to claim 9, wherein the container has a spigot for dispensing product from the dispensing opening and a handle.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A container according to claim 9, wherein the top wall of the container includes the venting closure, a-the vent cap for the venting closure, a handle, a dispensing opening and a dispensing closure covering the dispensing opening.

Claim 13 (original): A container according to claim 12, wherein the closure for the dispensing opening includes a measuring cup.

Claim 14 (new): A container according to claim 9, wherein the vent cap has an outer surface that has a raised portion which is used to align the cap in position during assembly.